

CHAPTER XXIII

SETTLED LAND

THE subject of settled land is a knotty one for the solicitor's clerk, and in his first few years he will do little more than touch the fringe of it.

It is not intended within this book to do more than give some elementary information about settlements, leaving the reader to obtain more advanced instruction from other more erudite works.

First of all, what *is* a settlement? There is a definition given in sect. 1 of the Settled Land Act, 1925, which explains it, but the explanation is too complex to be repeated here.

To give an elementary explanation of a settlement will probably bring the criticism that it is insufficient in definition, but it must be attempted and the author gives it for what it is worth.

A settlement is any deed, will, or other instrument by which any land is held in trust for enjoyment by some person or persons for life or some limited period and then passes to some other person or persons. The person who has the enjoyment of the property for life is called a life tenant—and this kind of person will often be heard of by the solicitor's clerk.

A "tenant for life" is expressed by the Settled Land Act, 1925, to be "the person of

full age who
is for the time being beneficially
entitled to posses-
sion of settled land for life."

A tenant for life has certain extensive
powers re-
garding the settled land. Certain
other limited
owners (i.e. owners of land subject to
limitations)